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South Carolina's Employment Situation
September 2017
Employment Marks New Record

The number of people working in South Carolina set a new record in September, and unemployment reached its lowest level since February 2001, as the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September 2017 dropped to 3.9 percent from 4 percent in August.

The over-the-month change in the number of individuals working across the state increased by 6,910 to 2,232,795. The number of people unemployed declined 1,641 to 91,428, while the state's labor force increased 5,269 to 2,324,223 people.

Since September 2016, the labor force has grown by 26,586 with employment gains of 39,183. The level of unemployed decreased 12,597.

Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased from 4.4 percent in August to 4.2 percent in September.

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted[1])
September 2017 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment declined by 4,500 over the month to a level of 2,091,400.
- The state's job count rose in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+4,300); Construction (+2,300); Manufacturing (+1,300); and Education and Health Services (+500). Information remained steady.
- Industries recording job losses were Professional and Business Services (-4,300); Leisure and Hospitality (-3,200); Other Services (-2,600); Government (-2,200); and Financial Activities (-500).

From September 2016 to September 2017, South Carolina's economy added 28,100 seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs.
- Industries with gains were Manufacturing (+9,900); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+7,200); Education and Health Services (+6,000); Professional and Business Services (+5,400); Government (+4,800); Construction (+1,200); and Financial Activities (+100).
- Declines were reported in the Leisure and Hospitality (-3,200); Other Services (-2,700); and Information (-700) sectors.

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted[2])
Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 1,700 from August 2017 to September 2017 for a total of 2,093,500. Compared to other industries, Government (+11,100) added the most jobs during the month of September.

- Over the month, additional increases in jobs came from Education and Health Services (+1,700); Manufacturing (+1,200); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+1,100); and Construction (+400). Declines were reported in Leisure and Hospitality (-11,700); Professional and Business Services (-2,300); Other Services (-1,500); Financial Activities (-1,200); Information (-400); and Mining and Logging (-100).

Since September 2016, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 27,800 overall in South Carolina.

- Industries marking annual gains were Manufacturing (+10,000); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+7,300); Professional and Business Services (+6,300); Education and Health Services (+4,300); Government (+3,900); Financial Activities (+700); and Mining and Logging (+100).
- Decreases occurred in Leisure and Hospitality (-2,100); Other Services (-1,700); Information (-700); and Construction (-300).

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[1]Seasonally Adjusted: Seasonal adjustment removes the effects of events that follow a more or less regular pattern each year (i.e. tourist-related hiring and school closings in the summer). These adjustments make it easier to observe the cyclical and other nonseasonal movements in data over time.

[2]Not Seasonally Adjusted: Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have not been removed from these data.

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
September 2017

Industry	September 2017	August 2017	September 2016	August 2017 to September 2017		September 2016 to September 2017	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	*2,091,400*	*2,095,900*	*2,063,300*	*-4,500*	*-0.22%*	*28,100*	*1.36%*
Construction	97,500	95,200	96,300	2,300	2.36%	1,200	1.25%
Manufacturing	249,300	248,000	239,400	1,300	0.52%	9,900	4.14%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	403,400	399,100	396,200	4,300	1.07%	7,200	1.82%
Information	26,300	26,300	27,000	0	0.00%	-700	-2.59%
Financial Activities	100,400	100,900	100,300	-500	-0.50%	100	0.10%
Professional and Business Services	275,100	279,400	269,700	-4,300	-1.56%	5,400	2.00%
Education and Health Services	249,300	248,800	243,300	500	0.20%	6,000	2.47%
Leisure and Hospitality	244,800	248,000	248,000	-3,200	-1.31%	-3,200	-1.29%
Other Services	72,200	74,800	74,900	-2,600	-3.60%	-2,700	-3.60%
Government	368,800	371,000	364,000	-2,200	-0.60%	4,800	1.32%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
September 2017

Industry	September 2017	August 2017	September 2016	August 2017 to September 2017		September 2016 to September 2017	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	*2,093,500*	*2,095,200*	*2,065,700*	*-1,700*	*-0.08%*	*27,800*	*1.35%*
Mining and Logging	4,300	4,400	4,200	-100	-2.27%	100	2.38%
Construction	95,700	95,300	96,000	400	0.42%	-300	-0.31%
Manufacturing	249,100	247,900	239,100	1,200	0.48%	10,000	4.18%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	401,400	400,300	394,100	1,100	0.27%	7,300	1.85%
Information	25,900	26,300	26,600	-400	-1.52%	-700	-2.63%
Financial Activities	101,200	102,400	100,500	-1,200	-1.17%	700	0.70%
Professional and Business Services	276,900	279,200	270,600	-2,300	-0.82%	6,300	2.33%
Education and Health Services	248,700	247,000	244,400	1,700	0.69%	4,300	1.76%
Leisure and Hospitality	247,900	259,600	250,000	-11,700	-4.51%	-2,100	-0.84%
Other Services	73,200	74,700	74,900	-1,500	-2.01%	-1,700	-2.27%
Government	369,200	358,100	365,300	11,100	3.10%	3,900	1.07%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted
September 2017

Area	September 2017	August 2017	September 2016	August 2017 to September 2017 # Change	August 2017 to September 2017 % Change	September 2016 to September 2017 # Change	September 2016 to September 2017 % Change
Statewide	*2,091,400*	*2,095,900*	*2,063,300*	*-4,500*	*-0.22%*	*28,100*	*1.36%*
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	353,600	353,700	349,400	-100	-0.03%	4,200	1.20%
Columbia MSA	394,800	397,100	397,000	-2,300	-0.58%	-2,200	-0.55%
Florence MSA	89,100	89,400	88,000	-300	-0.34%	1,100	1.25%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	415,300	416,200	410,800	-900	-0.22%	4,500	1.10%
Myrtle Beach MSA	163,600	161,900	161,300	1,700	1.04%	2,300	1.43%
Spartanburg MSA	152,400	152,500	148,300	-100	-0.07%	4,100	2.76%
Sumter MSA	38,700	39,400	39,200	-700	-1.81%	-500	-1.28%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Not Seasonally Adjusted
September 2017

Area	September 2017	August 2017	September 2016	August 2017 to September 2017 # Change	August 2017 to September 2017 % Change	September 2016 to September 2017 # Change	September 2016 to September 2017 % Change
Statewide	*2,093,500*	*2,095,200*	*2,065,700*	*-1,700*	*-0.08%*	*27,800*	*1.35%*
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	353,200	353,600	348,100	-400	-0.11%	5,100	1.47%
Columbia MSA	396,400	394,900	395,500	1,500	0.38%	900	0.23%
Florence MSA	88,800	88,700	87,900	100	0.11%	900	1.02%
Greenville MSA	415,800	413,400	410,100	2,400	0.58%	5,700	1.39%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	77,200	79,600	77,000	-2,400	-3.02%	200	0.26%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	166,000	170,700	163,400	-4,700	-2.75%	2,600	1.59%
Spartanburg MSA	152,200	151,100	148,400	1,100	0.73%	3,800	2.56%
Sumter MSA	38,500	39,000	39,200	-500	-1.28%	-700	-1.79%

Note: *Employment estimates have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding or the exclusion of certain industries from publication. All data are subject to revision.*

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE
(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

AREA		September 2017 LABOR FORCE	September 2017 EMPLOY-MENT	September 2017 UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	September 2017 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	August 2017 LABOR FORCE	August 2017 EMPLOY-MENT	August 2017 UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	August 2017 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	September 2016 LABOR FORCE	September 2016 EMPLOY-MENT	September 2016 UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	September 2016 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)
Fairfield County	↓	10,326	9,498	828	8.0	10,397	9,478	919	8.8	10,105	9,426	679	6.7
Allendale County	↓	2,702	2,521	181	6.7	2,744	2,546	198	7.2	2,686	2,464	222	8.3
Bamberg County	↓	5,274	4,945	329	6.2	5,450	4,970	480	8.8	5,288	4,821	467	8.8
Orangeburg County	↓	35,641	33,436	2,205	6.2	36,742	33,437	3,305	9.0	35,852	32,658	3,194	8.9
Marion County	↓	12,735	11,989	746	5.9	13,000	12,071	929	7.1	12,823	11,733	1,090	8.5
Marlboro County	↓	9,298	8,761	537	5.8	9,419	8,755	664	7.0	9,257	8,525	732	7.9
Williamsburg County	↓	12,704	12,010	694	5.5	12,890	12,027	863	6.7	12,576	11,726	850	6.8
Lee County	↓	6,535	6,180	355	5.4	6,635	6,210	425	6.4	6,513	6,093	420	6.4
Chester County	↓	13,906	13,167	739	5.3	14,020	13,125	895	6.4	13,709	12,822	887	6.5
Barnwell County	↓	8,433	8,000	433	5.1	8,529	8,013	516	6.0	8,350	7,790	560	6.7
Clarendon County	↓	13,017	12,360	657	5.0	13,230	12,431	799	6.0	12,945	12,162	783	6.0
Dillon County	↓	13,007	12,361	646	5.0	13,181	12,426	755	5.7	12,884	12,091	793	6.2
Union County	↓	11,942	11,348	594	5.0	11,949	11,253	696	5.8	11,679	11,039	640	5.5
Sumter County	↓	43,559	41,445	2,114	4.9	44,370	41,824	2,546	5.7	44,194	41,763	2,431	5.5
Darlington County	↓	30,190	28,744	1,446	4.8	30,553	28,837	1,716	5.6	30,135	28,345	1,790	5.9
Calhoun County	↓	6,909	6,594	315	4.6	7,007	6,590	417	6.0	6,991	6,550	441	6.3
Georgetown County	↓	25,918	24,721	1,197	4.6	26,277	24,901	1,376	5.2	25,678	24,163	1,515	5.9
Cherokee County	↓	23,914	22,887	1,027	4.3	23,966	22,775	1,191	5.0	23,569	22,246	1,323	5.6
Colleton County	↓	17,391	16,639	752	4.3	17,473	16,640	833	4.8	17,140	16,271	869	5.1
Lancaster County	↓	38,417	36,748	1,669	4.3	38,514	36,610	1,904	4.9	37,726	35,798	1,928	5.1
Edgefield County	↓	10,916	10,455	461	4.2	11,037	10,531	506	4.6	10,776	10,188	588	5.5
Hampton County	↓	8,326	7,979	347	4.2	8,505	8,118	387	4.6	8,280	7,839	441	5.3
Kershaw County	↓	29,288	28,052	1,236	4.2	29,381	27,987	1,394	4.7	29,304	27,835	1,469	5.0
Florence County	↓	66,024	63,307	2,717	4.1	66,479	63,332	3,147	4.7	65,618	62,403	3,215	4.9
Horry County	↓	142,146	136,281	5,865	4.1	146,616	140,051	6,565	4.5	140,792	133,767	7,025	5.0
Newberry County	↓	19,426	18,633	793	4.1	19,638	18,714	924	4.7	19,066	18,274	792	4.2
Abbeville County	↓	10,474	10,059	415	4.0	10,509	10,016	493	4.7	10,335	9,802	533	5.2
Chesterfield County	↓	22,365	21,481	884	4.0	22,503	21,497	1,006	4.5	21,994	20,987	1,007	4.6
Greenwood County	↓	31,811	30,543	1,268	4.0	31,909	30,460	1,449	4.5	31,334	29,753	1,581	5.0
Laurens County	↓	30,620	29,403	1,217	4.0	30,621	29,252	1,369	4.5	30,333	28,857	1,476	4.9
McCormick County	↓	3,454	3,319	135	3.9	3,473	3,316	157	4.5	3,409	3,235	174	5.1
Oconee County	↓	35,095	33,733	1,362	3.9	35,259	33,675	1,584	4.5	34,585	32,926	1,659	4.8
Richland County	↓	201,345	193,428	7,917	3.9	201,820	192,450	9,370	4.6	201,022	191,676	9,346	4.6
Aiken County	↓	75,733	72,964	2,769	3.7	76,494	73,231	3,263	4.3	74,441	70,879	3,562	4.8
Beaufort County	↓	73,050	70,342	2,708	3.7	75,519	72,394	3,125	4.1	72,965	69,741	3,224	4.4
Pickens County	↓	57,039	54,926	2,113	3.7	57,050	54,565	2,485	4.4	56,496	53,871	2,625	4.6
York County	↓	132,793	128,003	4,790	3.6	132,915	127,380	5,535	4.2	130,353	124,650	5,703	4.4
Anderson County	↓	90,125	86,981	3,144	3.5	90,230	86,444	3,786	4.2	89,205	85,297	3,908	4.4
Berkeley County	↓	97,040	93,631	3,409	3.5	97,517	93,642	3,875	4.0	95,862	91,715	4,147	4.3
Saluda County	↓	8,892	8,580	312	3.5	9,032	8,665	367	4.1	8,943	8,554	389	4.3
Spartanburg County	↓	145,796	140,630	5,166	3.5	145,704	139,443	6,261	4.3	143,111	136,740	6,371	4.5
Dorchester County	↓	75,423	72,822	2,601	3.4	75,843	72,847	2,996	4.0	74,559	71,350	3,209	4.3
Lexington County	↓	147,741	142,692	5,049	3.4	148,000	142,193	5,807	3.9	147,408	141,540	5,868	4.0
Greenville County	↓	248,320	240,077	8,243	3.3	247,947	238,514	9,433	3.8	245,406	235,380	10,026	4.1
Jasper County	↓	12,049	11,651	398	3.3	12,437	11,974	463	3.7	12,072	11,584	488	4.0
Charleston County	↓	206,170	199,799	6,371	3.1	207,339	199,853	7,486	3.6	203,788	195,952	7,836	3.8
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↓	378,633	366,252	12,381	3.3	380,699	366,342	14,357	3.8	374,209	359,017	15,192	4.1
Columbia MSA	↓	404,501	388,844	15,657	3.9	405,637	387,363	18,274	4.5	403,773	385,581	18,192	4.5
Florence MSA	↓	96,214	92,051	4,163	4.3	97,032	92,169	4,863	5.0	95,753	90,748	5,005	5.2
Greenville -Anderson-Mauldin MSA	↓	426,104	411,387	14,717	3.5	425,848	408,775	17,073	4.0	421,440	403,405	18,035	4.3
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED South Carolina	↓	2,324,223	2,232,795	91,428	3.9	2,318,954	2,225,885	93,609	4.0	2,297,637	2,193,612	104,025	4.5

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

Counties are sorted by current month's unemployment rate in descending order.

↑ Unemployment Rate Up
↓ Unemployment Rate Down
– Unemployment Rate =